

April 21, 2005

The El Paso Telephone Company

Petition for Declaratory Relief and/or Suspension
Modification Relating to Certain Duties under Sections
251 (b) and (c) of the Federal Telecommunications
Act, pursuant to Section 251(f)(2) of that Act; and for
any other necessary or appropriate relief.

05-0261

SERVED ELECTRONICALLY

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NOTICE

Dear Sir/Madam:

Notice is hereby given that the Administrative Law Judge directs Petitioner, Staff, and any intervener to explain why Section 251(f)(1) of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 does not exempt Petitioner, as a rural telephone company, from the obligations established in Section 251(c) (as well as those obligations established in Section 251(b)) in light of the Commission not having terminated Petitioner's rural telephone company exemption as described in Section 251(f)(1)(B).

Notice is also given that Petitioner's response to the above inquiry must be received by April 25, 2005. Staff and any intervener must respond to the declaratory ruling request, the above inquiry, and Petitioner's response to the above inquiry by April 28, 2005. Any reply by Petitioner to the responses of Staff and any intervener must be received by 12:00 P.M. May 3, 2005.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rolando
Chief Clerk

EAR:sc
Administrative Law Judge Albers
(217)782-4854

cc: Jeff Hoagg, Case Manager, Illinois Commerce Commission, 527 E. Capitol Ave., Springfield, IL
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